



SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMITTEE NO. 9
DATE 2-19-07
BILL NO. SB452

(406) 677-2201

379 Boy Scout Road • P.O. Box 549 • Seeley Lake, Montana 59868

Senate Natural Resources

2/19/07

SB 452 Testimony

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Gordon Sanders, Resource Manager for Pyramid Mountain Lumber, Inc., a small family-owned Forest Products mill in the rural community of Seeley Lake, Montana. On behalf of our 155 hard-working Montana families at Pyramid, I offer the following testimony in support of the "Montana Working Forests, Ranches, Farms, and Watersheds Act".

As a member of the Blackfoot Landscape Stewardship Working Group and the Beaverhead-Deerlodge Partnership, Pyramid believes large landscape level thinking and implementation of active forest management through Stewardship and Restoration Treatments are the key to long-term forest health and economic benefits to rural communities.

SB 452 offers Pyramid the opportunity to continue to implement long-term forest stewardship goals and objectives on private, state and federal lands across Montana. Should the State of Montana acquire forestlands through the implementation of this bill, our expectation is that the sustained yield harvest level would increase through growth and yield calculations on a larger trust land base. Pyramid is very supportive of the

working forests concept – a very familiar concept to family-owned forests, which currently provide 70% of our raw materials.

In closing, Pyramid is supportive of the “Montana Working Forests, Ranches, Farms and Watersheds Act” as a useful tool in providing the opportunity for landscape level active forest management across Montana.

Sincerely,



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